

Smart Villages

Austria

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Brussels, 04. October 2018

State of play in Austria

Lack of strategic framework?

- A lot is already happening:
 - LEADER projects e.g. regarding social innovation
 - Measure 7 basic services
- 2017: Master Plan for Rural Areas → Many approaches and solutions similar to the concept of Smart Villages



- Austria has a federal state organization → platform for discussions of all relevant stakeholders: Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK)

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Example Tyrol

- Currently: CLLD multi-fonds implementation with EARDF/ ERDF
- broad coordination process to prepare new period

Goals:

Commitment of bottom up approach

- Integration of the Smart Villages concept in the LDS of the LEADER/CLLD-areas.
- further development of LEADER/ CLLD towards investments dealing with future challenges
- Foster Governance between local (LEADER/CLLD areas) and regional level on the basis of regional-, national- and EU strategies and their common goals

Example Tyrol

Outcome:

- On local and regional level **one commonly** agreed concept „SMART REGION Tirol“
- Coordination and streamlining of national and European programs on local level **(One stop shop)** → foster available funds

Added Value :

- **Additional thematic content** for LEADER/CLLD
- **Avoiding double structures** by combining and building on existing partnerships
- Speeding up implementation of Smart Villages by using an already existing European platform

Addressing Second-Level
Digital Divide

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Policy instruments and implementation ideas

- (1) Smart Village strategies integrated in LDS and delivered by LEADER
 - Multi-funded or single funded and/or additional national funds
- (2) Integration of additional SMART Villages funds in the LEADER/ CLLD strategy as additional European funds or as additional national/ regional funds – for example: increasing 5% LEADER-minimum budget
- (3) Development of separate intervention corresponding to the concept SV for RD 2021 plus

global grant system?

Discussion process only just started!

Challenges

- Which interventions could be used according to the legal proposals?
- Budgetary situation regarding the multiannual financial framework
- LEADER: Balanced interaction between governance system and bottom-up approach
- linkage between Smart Village, Smart Specialisation, rural –urban linkage, Smart Cities


**avoiding creation of new independent layers
building on existing structures!**

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